

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. STRATA-06949

R E M A R K S

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed July 22, 2004, in the above-mentioned application. A Response to the Office Action mailed July 22, 2004 was submitted October 22, 2004. On March 16, 2005, Examiner Chen contacted Robert Goetz, the attorney on record for the present application, indicating that the claim amendments in the October 22, 2004 Response were not presented in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121, and requested the Applicant resubmit the Office Action Response of October 22, 2004 in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121. As such, the Applicant now submits a preliminary amendment in full compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121.

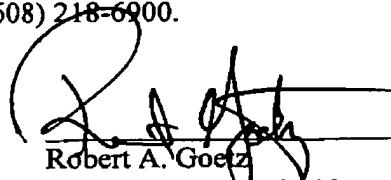
Claims 1 - 6 and 8 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 has been amended and Claims 5, 6 and 8 have been canceled. Unless otherwise noted, the claims have been cancelled or amended to further Applicant's business interests and the prosecution of the present application in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals (PBG; 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (September 8, 2000), and not in acquiescence to the Examiner's arguments and while reserving the right to prosecute the original (or similar) claims in the future. None of the claim amendments made herein are intended to narrow the scope of any of the amended claims within the meaning of *Festo Corp. v. Shokestu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*, 234 F.3d 558, 56 USPQ2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. 2000) or related cases.

The Examiner has indicated that Claim 6 is allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include the limitations of Claims 5 and 6. Thus, Claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon are in condition for allowance.

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All grounds of rejection and objection of the Office Action of July 22, 2004 having been addressed, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that the invention as claimed fully meets all requirements and that the claims are worthy of allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would aid in the prosecution of this application, Applicant encourages the Examiner to call the undersigned collect at (608) 218-6900.

Dated: 5/16/05



Robert A. Goetz
Registration No. 55,210

MEDLEN & CARROLL, LLP
101 Howard Street, Suite 350
San Francisco, California 94105
608.218.6900